

BOOK NOTICE

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SPEAKING TO POWER **Advocacy for health and social care**

by David Donnison



"David Donnison's book 'Speaking To Power' is both challenging and timely. He argues the need for the development of a new kind of advocacy, working alongside disadvantaged and disenfranchised citizens and service users, helping them find and express their voice more powerfully and more effectively. This is a thought-provoking and inspiring book."

John Benington, Professor of Public Policy and Management, Warwick Business School

How can vulnerable people be given a voice to enable them to deal with public services on more equal terms? *Speaking to power*, published by The Policy Press on the 30 June, helps us answer this question.

Based on the experience of real advocates, *Speaking to power* is written in a vivid, jargon-free style. As well as practical chapters on 'what advocates do', using case studies from Scotland where important developments are taking place, the book discusses how advocacy fits into the broader scheme of things. David Donnison describes and discusses examples of advocacy, with chapters dealing with management, training and evaluation of the work. He covers challenging issues, such as how to engage homeless people, supporting violent clients, and how to deal with ethical issues such as euthanasia. The book concludes with a thought-provoking discussion of various strategies which help vulnerable people speak to power.

Anyone working, or planning to work, as an advocate for people who need help in dealing with public services will want to read this book. Advocacy is an area of increasing importance in service provision, where new ways of working have to be found that increasingly create an enabling, rather than a providing, state.

Speaking to power will be particularly helpful to those working with people who have mental health or learning difficulties, for doctors, nurses and social workers involved in

advocacy, and for students preparing to enter those professions. It will also be of interest to students of social policy and other readers concerned about Britain's broader social and political development.

Price £19.99 pb (ISBN 978 1 84742 037 4), £65.00 hb (ISBN 978 1 84742 038 1)

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Further information

1. ***Speaking to power*** by David Donnison is published by The Policy Press. It is available to buy from www.policypress.org.uk or from Marston Book Services, PO Box 269, Abingdon, Oxon OX14 4YN (01235 465500) price £19.99 (pb), £65.00 (hb) plus £2.75 p&p.

2. **David Donnison** is Professor Emeritus in the Department of Urban Studies, University of Glasgow and convener of one of the voluntary agencies providing advocacy services in Scotland. His many books include *The politics of poverty* and *Policies for a just society*. He is available for interview and can be contacted on Tel: 0141 334 5817 or email d.donnison@btinternet.com or, from the 8 July, Tel: 01852 300 458.

3. **The Policy Press** is a leading social science publisher based at the University of Bristol and is committed to publishing books that make a difference. For further information or to request a review copy please contact: Jessica Hughes, Marketing Executive at The Policy Press on Tel: 0117 331 4096 or email jessica.hughes@bristol.ac.uk